# LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT CONTENTS

DAVID BALL HOUSE	3
MARCUS C. BALL HOUSE	$\dots \dots $
CARRINGTON HOUSE AND CEMETERY	5
COPLEY-LATTA HOUSE	
ELLIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	9
MARTIN VAN BUREN ELLIS FARM	10
W. W. ELLIS HOUSE	11
SAM HALL FARM	12
HARRIS-EVANS HOUSE	13
ADDISON MANGUM LAW OFFICE	14
MANGUM'S CORNER	15
MANGUM FAMILY HOUSE	17
MT. CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	18
ORANGE FACTORY AND MILL COMMUNITY	20
PARRISH (ROUND HILL) SCHOOL FRAGMENT	22
PARRISH STORE	
ROBERTS FAMILY LOG HOUSE	24
GASTON ROBERTS HOUSE	25
LUTHER ROBERTS KITCHEN	27
SEEMAN COTTAGE	28
PHILLIP SOUTHERLAND HOUSE	29
SPRUCE PINE LODGE	31
AMED TILLEY HOUSE	32
NORMAN TILLEY HOUSE	34
PROFILE: SQUIRE D. AND MARTHA WALLER UMSTEAD	35
ADOLPHUS UMSTEAD HOUSE	36
A. K. UMSTEAD HOUSE	39
DEE (DEWITT) UMSTEAD HOUSE	41
HAMPTON UMSTEAD FARMHOUSE	43

### DAVID BALL HOUSE 1906

SR 1615, Bahama vicinity



The well-maintained Triple-A I-house built by postman David Ball bears the year of its construction, 1906, inscribed on a rear chimney. Embellishments such as a double leaf entry door with glazed panels, pedimented window and door surrounds with sawn work ornaments, diamond-shaped vents on front and side gables, and a wide wrap-around porch with replacement Craftsman supports and a stick balustrade make the dwelling more elaborate than usual. Its large two-story rear ell, contemporary with the house, has partially enclosed porches on each floor with chamfered posts and turned railings. A one-story shed addition, also at the rear, is attached to the main block and abuts the ell on the south. Selective interior renovations left columned and mirrored mantels and a staircase with ball-headed newels and turned balusters in place. Behind the house, among modern or much-renovated outbuildings are several turn of the 20th century log and frame structures in ruinous condition and a large frame barn with the year, 1896, impressed in nail heads.

### MARCUS C. BALL HOUSE 1911

SR 1615, 0.35 miles south of SR 1616, Bahama vicinity



At the end of the 19th century, the little village of Round Hill gradually disappeared after the railroad was constructed and commercial activity moved nearer the depot in the newly forming village of Bahama. The area had reverted to small farms by 1911 when Marcus C. Ball constructed his one-story, single-pile, tri-gable dwelling, a house form that was extremely popular in North Carolina from 1880 until about 1920. The dwelling stands over brick piers with block infill, is weatherboarded, covered by a metal shingle roof, and has an interior chimney with a corbelled cap. A rear ell is contemporary with the main block. Two-over-two windows flank a center door on the front facade, and are placed symmetrically elsewhere around the main block and the ell. Plain posts support a nearly full facade hip-roofed front porch, and a small porch that adjoins the ell has been partially enclosed.

# CARRINGTON HOUSE AND CEMETERY CA. 1855 (SL)

SR 1608, 0.6 miles west of SR 1607, Bahama vicinity



Around 1855, Allen Simon Carrington is thought to have constructed this fine I-house with simple Greek Revival trim on part of the land granted to his grandfather, Nathaniel, by John, Earl Granville, in the late 18th century. Three generations of Carrington's family have since occupied the house, a daughter, Vena, and her husband Albert Tilley, their son, Arthur Tilley and his wife, Gertrude, and their son, Arthur Tilley, Jr.

The dwelling is weatherboarded, covered with a metal roof, and bracketed by exterior end chimneys. Six-over-nine windows, several post and lintel mantels, a few doors with two flat vertical panels, wide baseboards, and some wide-board sheathing have survived a late 19th century update that included the installation of factory-made newels and balusters, several ornate mantels and doors, and a front porch with decorative posts and a turned balustrade. In 1920, the house, which had faced east, was turned to face south. At that time its fieldstone foundations and chimneys were rebuilt and the upper bases and stacks of the chimneys made of brick. A long one-story rear ell was remodeled in 1940.

Farm buildings include a pack house, a well enclosure, and several log tobacco barns. A one-room log dwelling west of the house, updated with narrow flush-board sheathing on the interior, is said to have been an antebellum loom house. A small deteriorated frame building southwest of the house, was previously a school; and a one-room log dwelling north of the house was a slave house.

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

Southwest of the house, a large family cemetery surrounded by a cast iron fence has a number of beautiful mid-19th century markers. Nathaniel (Nat) Carrington who died in 1830 is the earliest marked burial though his grave has a later-made stone.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Information about Allen Simon Carrington and the uses of various buildings was provided by Arthur Tilley, Jr., 24 October 1996.

# COPLEY-LATTA HOUSE ca. 1885 (SL)

SR 1471, 0.3 miles west of SR 1607, Copley's Corner vicinity



Identified on the 1887 and the 1910 maps of Durham County as the A. Copley and A. R. Copley residence, this tri-gable I-house with simple Italianate and Greek Revival decoration was beautifully restored by Phillip Latta who purchased it in 1976. Built over a fieldstone



foundation, the house is weatherboarded, bracketed by single-shouldered end chimneys with corbelled caps, and has a nearly full facade hip-roofed front porch. elaborate entry has two paneled double-leaf doors topped by a two-light transom and a pedimented surround; the outermost pair is half glazed and opens outside while the innermost pair is solid wood and opens inside. Four-over-four windows with round-arched tops and pedimented surrounds are placed regularly around the dwelling and on a small one-story rear ell that is contemporary with the main block. Latta enclosed a shed porch, and added a kitchen ell and a screened porch topped with a balustrade. At the time of this publication, the interior contained Greek Revival post and lintel mantels and four-panel doors, and wide board paneling and flooring. As of 1999, a graceful staircase with an Italianate octagonal newel and turned balusters rises from the center hall through a landing to the second

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

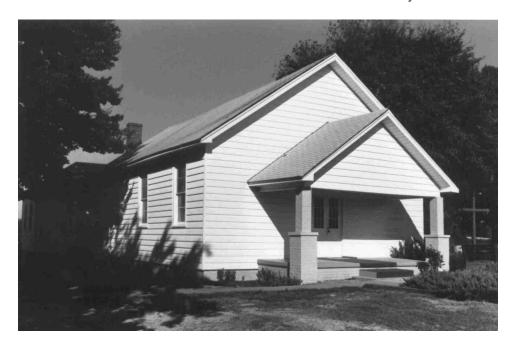
floor.

A large number of log and frame outbuildings are grouped around the house. These structures include a mule barn, various storehouses, a corncrib, a smokehouse, a pack house, and numerous tobacco barns and sheds. Near the southern edge of the property, a tenant house was constructed in the early 20th century to replace a similar one that had burned.



# ELLIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CA. 1900

SR 1741, 0.2 miles from SR 1616, Bahama vicinity



Martin Van Buren Ellis, star of *Tobaccoland, Inc.*, a movie distributed nationally by the Liggett and Myers Tobacco Company in the late 1930s, became the first member of the Ellis Chapel United Methodist Church when it was organized in 1900. Ellis, who died in 1940, is buried in a cemetery that surrounds the church on a lovely promontory overlooking the countryside. Among the earliest grave markers in the cemetery are those for the Weaver children, who died in 1898 and 1899, and Connly (sic) Collins, who died in 1900. South of the church, there is a shelter for dinner on the grounds and a modern storage building.

The church building, a rectangular, frame, front-gabled structure with shallow eaves, is one large bay wide and four regular bays deep. On the front of the building, a small gabled porch supported by brick pillars shelters a double-leaf entry door, and on the long elevations, there are two-over-two vertical-paned windows of green streaked opalescent glass. A small hiproofed education wing added on the west gives the entire structure a T shape. Like many early-20th century frame churches, the building has been covered recently with artificial siding.

On the interior, walls are covered with tongue-and-groove sheathing painted light green above dark wainscoting to compliment the windows. Between two sections of pews, a center aisle leads to the altar where the communion rail has a plain balustrade with square newels at either end. At the rear of the sanctuary, horizontal-panel doors with molded surrounds lead to the wing and outside to the cemetery.

### MARTIN VAN BUREN ELLIS FARM LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

SR 1616, Bahama vicinity



A double leaf entry door and a quatrefoil vent on the center gable are special enhancements on the well-preserved Triple-A I-house built in the late 19th century at the heart of the Martin Van Buren Ellis farm. The dwelling also has two-over-two sash windows, single-shouldered brick end chimneys with corbelled stacks, and full-facade front and back porches with hip roofs that were common to the house form and the time. A long one-story ell at the rear of the dwelling has a hip-roofed porch that abuts the back porch of the main block at a right angle.

Most of the interior is finished with modern wall coverings, but original mantels, different in each room, remain, and among them, a columned and mirrored mantel in the front parlor is particularly handsome. Behind the farmhouse a one-room log kitchen, covered with vertical weatherboard siding, has been converted for use as a tenant house. A notable collection of



outbuildings on the farm include several log and frame tobacco barns, a log strip room, a large frame pack house, a frame smokehouse, and two log corn cribs that now function as chicken houses.

In the late 1930s, Martin Van Buren Ellis was chosen as the principal performer for the Liggett and Myers film, *Tobaccoland USA*. Much of the motion picture, distributed nationwide, was filmed on the Ellis farm.

### W. W. ELLIS HOUSE 1924

SR 1628, Orange Factory vicinity



W. W. Ellis, boiler operator at Orange Factory, boarded mill workers and raised a family of nine children in a very late Triple-A I-house. Building in 1924, when most of his neighbors preferred the Craftsman or Colonial Revival styles, Ellis chose the traditional house form but gave token recognition to current fashion through open eaves and shaped rafter tails around the dwelling and its two-story rear ell.

If somewhat weathered, the house retains all of its exterior details. It is a large frame structure set on brick piers and capped with a metal roof. Fenestration is regular; a single leaf entry door has a glazed panel and windows are six-over-six except that a nine-pane light surmounts the front door and a four-pane light is directly above it on the center gable. A full-facade hip-roofed porch has turned posts and a later-added shed roof extension that apparently served to provide deeper shade for the west-facing house. A porch on the ell has been enclosed with six-pane windows. Chimneys, placed at the rear of the house, are asymmetrical; a stove chimney serves the north side and a rear fireplace chimney, the south. Where walls are not papered and sheet vinyl conceals floors, interior finishes are intact. Narrow beaded siding is present, doors have a variety of panels, simple mantels are bracketed, and square newels and balusters line the stairs.

Behind the house, outbuildings include a frame barn, a frame chicken house, a frame workshop, a well enclosure, two privies, an unusual shed made of five-panel doors, and a log smokehouse and storage barn.

### SAM HALL FARM CA. 1900

SR 1611, Lake Michie vicinity



A large rectangular vent on the center gable adorns the well-preserved Triple-A I-house built by tobacco farmer Sam Hall at the turn of the 20th century. With plain weatherboard siding, two-over-two sash windows, full-facade hip-roofed porches front and back, and single shouldered brick end chimneys with corbelled stacks, the dwelling resembles many of its type built in Durham County at about the same time. A long rear ell, added in several phases, has a full-length porch that abuts the back porch of the main block at a right angle. The interior has a miscellany of decorative features of the period. Narrow board sheathing covers walls and ceilings, mantels are simple post and lintel combinations, square newels and balusters line the stairs, and doors have five or seven panels.

A public roadway bisects the Sam Hall farm, dividing the dwelling and its domestic dependencies, a frame smokehouse, a frame well enclosure, and a ca. 1940 garage, on its north



from the tobacco-related outbuildings. On the south side of the road, six log tobacco barns surround a two-story pack house, an ordering house, and a strip house. Beside the pack house, a dirt farm lane leads to a one-story gable-roofed, log structure with a fieldstone chimney said to have been a rural school. After consolidation in 1913, this building was enlarged by a wing and rear shed and improved with a columned and mirrored Colonial Revival mantel to serve tenant farmers. Tobacco culture continues on the Sam Hall farm, but early 20th century outbuildings were adapted for modern equipment storage and curing is done in metal bulk barns.

# HARRIS-EVANS HOUSE SECOND QUARTER OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WITH EXTENSIVE MID-20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ALTERATIONS

SR 1625, 0.5 miles north of SR 1626, Bahama vicinity



Marcus Harris built a large story-and-a-half log dwelling with a large and prominent fieldstone and brick chimney southeast of Bahama ca. 1835. His son, Robert, is thought to have added the frame two-story wing at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, utilizing four-over-four windows on the front facade and reserving six-over-six windows for use on the side elevations. The younger Harris also added a full-width hip-roofed front porch, with a concrete floor and log supports installed ca. 1940 by Sam Evans, an African-American farmer who purchased the dwelling and 137 acres of land surrounding it during the depression.<sup>1</sup>

Evans and his family enlarged and updated the dwelling in the early 1940s, adding a long engaged frame shed to the rear of the log house, a bathroom to the frame wing, and asphalt siding on the exterior.<sup>2</sup> At the same time, they moved a 19th century v-notched log outbuilding to a site near the house and converted it for use as a washhouse, and constructed a stock barn, two smokehouses, three tobacco barns, a chicken house, and a well house. Around 1960, they installed wall and floor coverings on the interior that obscured or replaced most original features though one late 19th century Greek Revival-style mantel remained in their dining room.

<sup>1</sup> Interview with James Evans, son of Sam Evans, 20 October 1996.

<sup>2</sup> Anderson, p.68.

# ADDISON MANGUM LAW OFFICE ca. 1855 (SL)

SR 1607, 0.4 miles north of SR 1611, Bahama vicinity



When Captain Addison Mangum, a cousin of United States Senator Willie P. Mangum, took over operations of the Flat River Post Office in 1858, he moved it to this one-story two-room structure on his farm.¹ There the post office and Mangum's law office shared quarters with one room reportedly allocated to each purpose.² The small frame building is constructed over fieldstone piers, covered by vertical board and batten siding, and capped by a metal roof. Each room was built with its own exterior batten door, but shared a central chimney and back-to-back fireboxes with post and lintel mantels refitted for stoves. The room thought to have been Mangum's law office is plastered and accented with molded baseboards while the post office is finished with frame sheathing and shelving. Minimal Greek Revival detailing includes six-over-six windows and interior door frames accented by small corner blocks.

<sup>1</sup> Anderson, Jean Bradley, Durham County, Durham and London, Duke University Press, 1990, p. 68.

<sup>2</sup> Anderson, p.68.

### MANGUM'S CORNER CA. 1920-30

Junction SR 1611 and SR 1603, Butner vicinity



The most elegant store-residence-farm combination in Durham County was developed and operated by merchant-farmer Sam Mangum at a crossroads east of Bahama in the early 20th century. His imposing residence, a large two-story frame house with irregular Queen Anne massing and Colonial Revival-style detailing was built ca. 1920 and overlooks the store from a hillside. It has a brick foundation, weatherboard siding, and a steeply-pitched central hip roof with dominant gables on the south (front) and west facades. Similar to dwellings built for wealthy tobacconists and merchants at about the same time in the town of Durham, there is a broad wrap-around porch supported by Tuscan columns on brick plinths, a pediment over the entry, and a paneled and glazed front door surmounted by a large undivided transom and a flanked by a single sidelight. The interior has many original features; a large square newel with inset panels and square spindles ornament the staircase, and coal-burning fireplaces have castiron fittings, tile and brick surrounds, and heavy wooden overmantels. Behind the house are an impressive array of tobacco barns, a pack house, a stock barn, and a smokehouse, and along the road across from the store, two large storage barns.



Mangum is said to have constructed the store of brick because a frame predecessor had burned. Erected in the early 1930's, the one-story rectangular building has shallow pilasters that divide its long facades into four narrow bays and a high hip roof covered by diamond-shaped tiles, more ornate features than were customary for Durham County stores at the time. The front facade is recessed beneath a porte cochere where gasoline

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

pumps once stood beside brick supports, and has a wide entrance door surmounted by a prominent Pepsi-Cola sign and flanked by six-over-six windows.

### MANGUM FAMILY HOUSE EARLY 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

SR 1611, 0.5 miles west of SR 1603, Mangum's Corner vicinity



Important as a rare survivor of a kind of dwelling once found throughout what is now Durham County, this one-room log farmhouse with fieldstone and brick end chimneys was built in the early 19th century by Jesse Mangum. Mangum and his wife, Polly Parrish, raised twelve children in the house; three sons later served in the Confederate Army. Information about this property is limited but the style of the chimney on a frame shed at the rear of the house suggests that it was added in the late 19th century. In the early 20th century, a breezeway between the log dwelling and a kitchen house in front of it was enclosed and an entrance created on the east gable end. A shed porch with peeled log supports appears to be more recent. The interior has been remodeled several times, but the house retains some early board paneling and flooring, several batten doors, a boxed stair, and a post and lintel mantel in the kitchen.

Outbuildings are of 19th and early 20th century vintage, and include a small ruinous log cabin that may have been a slave house or an early tenant house. South of the house, a cemetery with fieldstone markers is overgrown with periwinkle.

# MT. CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 1938

Junction SR 1615 and SR 1618, Bahama vicinity



In 1892, a group of African-American worshipers organized a Sunday school in a log cabin beside the Norfolk and Western Railroad tracks one mile south of Bahama. The structure also served as an elementary school for black children. By 1915, the congregation had acquired land and constructed a small building at the site of the present church. As membership grew, a larger sanctuary was badly needed and Pastor Thomas Carr Graham initiated the Lord's Acre plan in 1935. Families, or groups of members, were asked to plant an acre, or a plot of land of any size that was to be "prayerfully cultivated and kept separate at harvest time." Proceeds from the sales of crops grown on each of the Lord's acres were reserved for the construction of a new church. In September 1938, the earlier church was demolished and the new sanctuary begun. Worship services were moved to the Little River High School until the new church was completed four months later. The congregation continued the Lord's Acre plan and paid the entire mortgage within two years, a remarkable accomplishment during the Depression era.

Two bold crenellated towers capped by pyramid roofs, a motif frequently found in African-American churches, dominate the broad-gabled entry facade of the rectangular building. Twin doors beneath a center stoop, opposite one another on the side of each tower, open into small vestibules from which two aisles lead to an altar at the far end of the sanctuary. Around the building, stained glass windows incorporate Gothic Revival arches; an arch-capped window is found in the center of the front facade, and arches are incorporated into the designs of windows

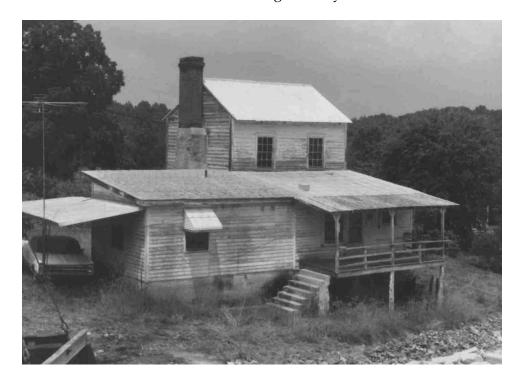
#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

at the bases of the towers and on the long walls of the sanctuary (installed in 1973). The brightly colored windows are accentuated on the interior by white walls and ceilings and dark wainscoting and pews. In 1949, an education building was added to the rear of the church, and in 1970, the entire structure was covered with aluminum siding.

A large cemetery north of the church contains fieldstone, concrete, and manufactured stone markers. Among the earliest stones are those inscribed for Aaron Reams and Polk Brandon; both men died in 1929.

# ORANGE FACTORY AND MILL COMMUNITY LATE 19<sup>TH</sup>, EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES (LARGELY DEMOLISHED)

SR 1628, Orange Factory



Established in 1852 and among the earliest textile mills in North Carolina, a small cotton mill on the banks of the Little River operated variously as Orange Factory, Willard Manufacturing Company, Little River Manufacturing Company, and Laura Cotton Mill before it closed in 1938. At different times during its almost one hundred years, the mill produced cotton yarn, cloth for Confederate uniforms, multicolored ginghams, seamless bags for tobacco products, rope, twine, hosing yarns, thread, and toweling. Though the factory was actively involved in the Confederate cause, General Sherman's troops rode through the community without looting it at the end of Civil War because, according to one source, "there weren't nothin' there but just poor folk."

Best known today by its original name, Orange Factory began in a modest-sized frame structure, and its dam across the Little River was also at first made of wood. Soon after the mill was opened, four houses were constructed for workers; other laborers reportedly lived nearby in their own homes. Early production was scanty for machinery was crude and much work was done by hand. During the late 19th century, a brick structure was constructed that incorporated or replaced the earlier frame building. Pictures show it to have been a large three- and one-half-

story building with a shallow gable roof and thick brick walls punctuated by rows of eightover-sixteen sash windows. A smaller three-story wing, also with rows of large windows, was attached on the west facade, and a prominent four-story tower on the south.

By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Orange Factory (then Willard Manufacturing Company) typified a rural Piedmont mill and self-contained industrial community. A grist mill operated upriver from the factory, and approximately twenty-four dwellings for workers, most of them built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, were perched in neat rows on the hillside above it. (One boarding house for single workers, known as the "twenty house," was reported to have housed as many workers at one time). A general store, a schoolhouse, and a church nearby completed the small mill village. After the factory ceased operations in 1938, the mill and most of the



workers' housing gradually fell to ruin, and when the Little River was dammed to create a reservoir and recreation area in 1983, were largely demolished and submerged. Two surviving dwellings, damaged by Hurricane Fran, were taken down in 1996, leaving only the Riverview Church, the W. W. Ellis House, and a ruinous frame store near the site of Orange Factory and its once-thriving mill community.

At peak production in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, 120 persons were employed at the mill. Ten-and eleven-hour days were usual and \$5 a week was an average wage, some to be taken out in goods at the company store. Jobs were allocated according to gender and age; nine- and ten-year-old children were particularly desirable workers because of their dexterity and agility around machinery. Men were assigned heavy labor in the warping, weaving, spinning, and carding rooms while women had easier tasks in the spinning and winding rooms. But women were often paid on a piecework scale, and, if work was easier, earnings were frequently less.



Workers at Orange Factory were more self-sufficient than workers at the mills in Durham for hunting, fishing, and raising livestock and vegetables made them less dependent on the company store. The company, in turn, did not use store credit to control and entrap them, as was often the custom elsewhere. The workers valued a familial and friendly quality they found in village life, and camaraderie was important in keeping them at their jobs. Many were related, if not by blood, by marriage, and their descendants often stayed at the mill for several generations.

# PARRISH (ROUND HILL) SCHOOL FRAGMENT LATE 19<sup>TH</sup>, EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES

SR 1615, Bahama vicinity



The reuse of earlier structures made building efficient and economical for many Durham County farmers. Local tradition holds that a portion of the antebellum Round Hill Academy established by D. C. (Doctor Claiborne) Parrish survives in a later built residence once occupied by the Lee Mangum family. When Parrish moved into Durham after the Civil War, the Round Hill Academy continued operations into the late 19th century under the direction of F. W. Roberts. Early 20th century maps of Durham County also identify the Bahama High School in 1910 and the Bahama Farm Life School in 1920 at or near this site.

The Mangum dwelling is composed of two one-story frame structures with a number of late-19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century exterior details that include two-over-two sash windows, partial gable returns, stove chimneys, and interior details of the same period such as narrow board sheathing, and horizontal paneled doors. The two buildings are joined by a frame connector to make an L-plan dwelling, and an entry porch was enclosed with German siding, screening, and contemporary windows during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

# PARRISH STORE CA. 1905 (SL)

SR 1616, Bahama



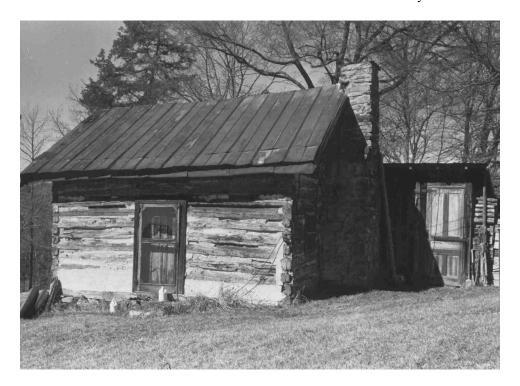
Life Magazine, the National Geographic, Our State, Down Home in North Carolina, and Charles Kuralt 's On the Road are among the publications and television news-features that have profiled the village of Bahama with a focus on the Parrish Store. Mary Parrish, a former owner, believes that



the frame, rectangular, gable roof structure, now with a hip-roof porte cochere, was built in 1905 by Luther Copley and it has served the community in many capacities since. In the 1920s it became the medical office of Dr. James Patrick and by the late 1930s was home to the Wade family. Robert Harris opened a store in the late 1940s, adding the porte cochere, the large four-paned windows that flank the double leaf entry door, a narrow shed wing on the east facade, and a gable-roof wing at the rear of the structure. Onice and Mary Parrish purchased the building in 1960 and until the 1990s operated a small grocery and convenience store. The Parrishes attracted national publicity in the early 1990s as they hosted afterhours dancing on Thursday evenings. Two-step and round dances to live bluegrass music provided happy times for Bahama-area residents. With a change in ownership, the dances moved to another location and the building became a hardware store.

# ROBERTS FAMILY LOG HOUSE MID- TO LATE 19TH CENTURY

SR 1616, 0.3 miles west of SR 1607, Bahama vicinity



Andrew Jackson Roberts, donor of the land for the Mount Bethel Church in Bahama, was the first known owner of the one-room, side-gable, hewn-log dwelling with a large fieldstone end chimney that stands on a hill overlooking Lake Michie. Built on a stone foundation, its rugged walls are joined with v-notches and chinked with mud plaster. A batten entry door in the center of the front facade and a single six-over-six window next to the chimney are the only fenestration. A coat of stucco adheres in fragments to the front of the structure and wood shingles from an early roof are exposed where sheet metal roofing is damaged. A wide log-and-frame shed was added in the late 19th or early 20th century.

# GASTON ROBERTS HOUSE CA. 1860-70 (SL)

SR 1622, 0.2 miles south of SR 1616, Bahama vicinity



According to Ervin Roberts, his grandfather, Gaston Roberts, built this extraordinary I-house from 1860-1870, a long construction period no doubt caused by the Civil War. The house is one of Durham County's best Federal-Greek Revival transitional style dwellings and also includes several Georgian-style decorative elements.

In the Federal style, the main block of the dwelling is tall, there is a boxed cornice beneath the eaves, and the roof is flush with the wall on gable ends. Fenestration also follows an early pattern; in the center of the front facade there are paired entry doors flanked by nine-over-six windows in end bays, and above these, six-over-six windows on the second floor. In the Greek Revival style are the four-paneled front doors and simple moldings with small plain corner blocks on door and window surrounds. Flush sheathing that covers the wall between the two entrances suggests that the present full facade hip-roof porch replaced a once-smaller porch. On the south gable end, an original fieldstone and brick chimney remains but its counterpart on the north end is now a modern stove chimney. Metal tiles cover the roof of the main block. The roof of the porch, and a long one-story ell that connects a former kitchen to the house are sheet metal. A shallow back porch is found at the juncture of the ell and the main block.

The dwelling has an unusual variant of the hall-parlor plan; the two rooms do not access each other on the first floor, and the second-floor can be reached only from the hall. The ell has direct access from the parlor but must be entered from the hall by crossing the back porch. All

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

rooms are finished with wide hand-planed boards. In the hall, exceptional decorative woodwork is found: horizontal wainscoting has traces of painted graining, a fine Georgian-style paneled mantel and eight-panel door leading to the back porch may have been taken from an earlier dwelling; and a Greek Revival double-vertical-panel door opens onto a boxed stair.

There are several log outbuildings near the house, a v-notched double-crib barn, a diamond-notched corncrib, and a one-room square-notched tenant house.

# LUTHER ROBERTS KITCHEN LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

SR 1616, 0.15 miles west of SR 1607, Bahama vicinity



In the late 19th century, Luther Roberts constructed a single-room gable-roofed kitchen house of four-by-four circular-sawn timbers joined by square notches and set over hewn-log sills salvaged from an earlier structure. In keeping with its intended use, the kitchen has a large fireplace with a simple post and lintel mantel and a prominent fieldstone chimney with a corbelled brick stack on the south facade. The original door, a wide, mortised and tenoned, five-panel door is found on the north facade, and a single four-over-four window on the east and south facades. In the early 20th century, the kitchen may have been a dwelling because door openings were made on the north and west facades to serve a large shed addition and a front porch that have collapsed.

With dilapidated frame tenant houses on the west and north sides, the kitchen encloses a small rectangular courtyard once at the rear of a farmhouse that has been demolished. North of the courtyard a v-notched log barn has been converted for use as a chicken house.

# SEEMAN COTTAGE CA. 1930 (SL)

Dirt lane off SR 1616, 0.7 miles east of Bahama, Bahama vicinity



Late 19th century log camps in the Adirondack Mountains served as models for rugged vacation homes and recreational structures built in scenic areas during the 1920s and 30s. When a reservoir for the Town of Durham was planned near Bahama, members of the Seeman family, owners of the large and successful Seeman Printery, bought land east of the village of Bahama along the Flat River. There they constructed a rustic Adirondack-style dwelling on a slope that eventually overlooked Lake Michie where Ernest Seeman, an amateur naturalist, frequently hosted members of an exploration group he had formed.

The one-and-a-half-story round-log dwelling is two piles deep and capped by a broad gable roof with a brick chimney on the north facade. Fenestration is varied; banks of casement windows with multiple lights are found on both floors and a belvedere at either end of the house along the roof ridge. There are numerous imaginative details: interstices in dark log walls are filled with short sticks placed at regular intervals and chinked with light-colored concrete; half-round and peeled slabs are placed diagonally on gable ends and on interior doors; and round logs serve as rafters and ceiling joists. A white quartz rock fireplace and a balustrade of interwoven branches that ornaments the staircase are outstanding decorative features. The dwelling has been vacant for a number of years and is deteriorating; the front porch has fallen; an enclosed frame shed porch at the rear of the house is unstable; windows are broken; and there is a large hole in the roof. A small log caretaker's cottage near the south end of the property has been maintained and is still occupied.

# PHILLIP SOUTHERLAND HOUSE ca. 1887 (SL)

SR 1615 .05 miles north of SR 1628, Bahama vicinity



When Phillip Southerland, overseer at Stagville, retired ca. 1887, his employer, Bennehan Cameron, sold him five hundred acres at the northernmost edge of his vast lands. There Southerland constructed a two-story frame house with Greek Revival ornamentation that is similar in plan to the house at Stagville where he lived until 1886.

Southerland modified the basic center-hall I-house plan and included a small central room on both floors to create a room arrangement like the house at Stagville. Access to rooms at the north end of the house was provided from a secondary hall perpendicular to the center hall. The dwelling appears as a extended side-gable I-house from the exterior. It stands over fieldstone piers, is weatherboarded, and is flanked by exterior end chimneys with fieldstone bases and brick stacks. To allow for the extra room, fenestration is asymmetrical; the front facade is divided into four bays below and three bays above. A paneled double-leaf entry door surmounted by a three-paned transom and sheltered beneath a stoop is offset to the south, flanked by a six-over-six window on the south end and a four-over-four and six-over-six window on the north end. Second story windows are identical to and located directly above those on the first floor.

The interior is finished with plastered walls and ceilings, and is enhanced on the first floor with chair rails and flush-board wainscoting. Greek Revival ornamentation includes square newels and stick balusters on a narrow staircase that ascends to the second floor from the back of the center hall, post and lintel mantels in each end room, and double-vertical-panel doors.

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

Although many of these features suggest an earlier house, the 1880s construction date is confirmed by the presence of original china doorknobs, a decorative feature not used in Piedmont North Carolina before that time.

A long one-story rear ell, supported by brick piers and flanked by shed porches, was added after the main block was completed. It is connected to the main block by an open breezeway.

Outbuildings include a smokehouse, several frame and log tobacco barns, miscellaneous sheds, and a ca. 1940 gambrel-roof barn.

# SPRUCE PINE LODGE CA. 1930 (SL)

SR 1616, Bahama vicinity



Adirondack rustic architecture reached a zenith in Durham County in the elaborate Spruce Pine Lodge constructed in the 1930s. Fieldstone foundations are graduated in size to level the rambling, one-story, cross-gable structure on its hilltop site overlooking Lake Michie. Round log walls are chinked with concrete and joined at corners with saddle notches. Midway on long facades the logs are fitted end to end over the ends of logs that protrude from interior walls in an innovative joint that allows length without compromising structural integrity. Half-round logs are inset in horizontal, diagonal, and vertical patterns on gables. Views from the lodge are maximized in all directions; multi-paned casement windows are arranged in pairs around the structure and a gable-roofed porch framed by log railings and latticing looks out over the lake. A large half-shouldered fieldstone chimney on the entry facade and shed dormers set into the roof show modest Craftsman influences.

Log walls on the interior are finished to a high sheen and interstices are filled with short sticks placed at measured intervals similar to those found at the Seeman Cottage. A massive stone fireplace gives a dramatic focus to the living room. Now owned by the City of Durham, the lodge is used as a recreational facility.

# AMED TILLEY HOUSE CA. 1900 (SL)

#### **DURHAM COUNTY LANDMARK**

SR 1624, 0.2 miles west of SR 1004, Butner vicinity



Similar to a number of fine residences constructed by wealthy Durhamites around 1900, Amed Tilley's handsome tri-gable I-house has a projecting two-story entry bay in the center of the front facade. Tilley, a prosperous tobacco farmer, embellished the traditional I-house form with deep overhanging eaves, full gable returns, sawn work decoration on gables around the house, patterned metal shingles on the roof, and interior brick chimneys with corbelled stacks. The wrap-around hip-roof porch has tapered box posts and matchstick rails of the later Craftsman style.

On the inside, an exceptionally wide central hall has a brick Craftsman fireplace surround and an ornate staircase that boasts a square newel with carved trim and bracketed stair treads. Here horizontal flush-board paneling surmounts vertical beaded-board wainscoting on the walls, and doors leading to various rooms have six horizontal panels and are set in molded post and lintel surrounds. In each room, mantels are ornamented with pilasters and sawn brackets, and, in the

rear ell, an unusual mantel has a double frieze and stylized Doric columns.



A one-story 19th century structure, perhaps an earlier family home, was moved to the site and attached to the house as a wing on the northwest facade. It has a hewn-timber frame and wide plank sheathing on the interior.

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

A small one-story ell, attached at the rear, is thought to have been constructed at the same time as the main block.

Outbuildings constructed during the late 19th and early to mid-20th centuries around the house, include a horse or mule barn, several log tobacco barns, a log ordering pit, a log corn crib, a smokehouse, a tractor shed, a generator house, a lath house, storage buildings, and a potato shed.

Haywood and Luetti Vaughan Tilley gave several of their children unusual names. Amed and his brother, Cassum Tilley, a former Durham County commissioner for whom a nearby road is named, honored characters in the book, *Arabian Nights*. The Tilley family owned the house and farm until Dr. John Monroe purchased them in 1981.



# NORMAN TILLEY HOUSE 1918

SR 1616, Bahama vicinity



Adjoining the Mount Bethel Church in Bahama, a variant of the nationally popular Foursquare style with a projecting gabled bay was constructed for Norman Tilley in 1918. The dwelling has a number of Craftsman details such as a full-facade hip-roofed front porch with square porch posts, and four-over-one windows. When the church purchased the site in the early 1970s, the large frame dwelling was relocated several miles west of the village and another structure removed to give it an advantageous location. Recent owners have added a large one-story ell at the rear of the dwelling.

# PROFILE: SQUIRE D. AND MARTHA WALLER UMSTEAD

Among the few settlers of German ancestry in the area that would become Durham County, Daniel (or David) and John Umstead, likely brothers, emigrated from Pennsylvania to North Carolina and settled along the Flat River and its tributary, Dial Creek in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. The earliest recorded Umstead land transaction is a 1797 grant to David Umstead for an 18-acre tract on the Flat River some 1.5 miles north of the present village of Bahama that included a "mill house."

A son of John Umstead, Squire D. (Daniel or Dewitt) Umstead married Martha Waller in 1835, and by 1850 had established himself as a prominent miller and farmer. That year the Orange County Population Schedule reveal that the couple (then 38 and 33 years old respectively) were parents of eleven children (North Carolina Governor William B. Umstead was among their grandchildren) and owned four separate tracts of land in northeastern Orange County totaling 864 acres. The largest and presumably the home tract contained 650 acres. On this land, the Umsteads grew 6,000 pounds of tobacco, 500 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of wheat, and maintained \$1,800 worth of livestock that included a herd of 30 swine. The other tracts, totaling 14 acres, 100 acres, and another 100 acres, may have been leased or farmed by other family members since no crops or livestock are recorded in the agricultural census for that year. The 14-acre tract (4 improved, 10 in woodland) was valued at \$500, an unusually high value that may have reflected a commercial use, perhaps as a mill tract. [Orange County Agricultural Census, Mangum Township, 1860] Umstead's tobacco farm was a notably large one. Prior to the Civil War, typical North Carolina and Virginia tobacco farms rarely exceeded 300 acres and the vast majority were less than 50 acres.

By 1870, the Orange County Population Schedule list Martha Umstead, widowed and then age 52, as the head of her household. It appears that, as her sons married and established households, they were given tracts of land subdivided from her extensive holdings on which they built or remodeled a number of notable houses now in the Bahama area including the four described here:

# ADOLPHUS UMSTEAD HOUSE CA. 1850 WITH EARLIER LOG CORE, AND CA. 1880 RENOVATION (NR)

SR 1607, 0.5 mi. north of SR 1611, Bahama vicinity



During his adult life, Adolphus Williamson Umstead, born in 1846 as the seventh child and fifth son of Squire D. and Martha Umstead, occupied this fine mid-19th century side-gabled I-house with modest Greek Revival details northeast of Bahama. It was vacant and deteriorating when John and Diane Bittikofer purchased it in 1978. A metal roof had protected the structure and most of the important architectural elements were intact or sufficient fragments remained to facilitate accurate replication. As the Bittikofers restored the house, they discovered an early 19th century log house within its walls.

Facing north beside a long-abandoned road that led from Oxford to Hillsborough, the weatherboarded farmhouse, a gracious dwelling once again, has an attached hip-roof porch and single-shouldered exterior gable end chimneys with fieldstone bases and offset corbelled brick stacks. Fenestration is symmetrical, and front and rear entrances have identical Greek Revival-style paneled double-leaf doors framed by sidelights. From the exterior, only a narrow four-over-four window set deep in the west wall of the first story evidences the log structure incorporated within the house. Elsewhere there are large six-over-six windows.

A heavy timber frame, rough-sawn 2" x 8" floor joists; the absence of a ridge board in the attic; and profiles of window and door architraves and window muntins that are similar to those found in mid-19th century Wake County houses suggest an approximate construction date of

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

1850 for the farmhouse. The presence of 2" x 4" circular-sawn rafters in the attic and corbelling on the chimneystacks, a Italianate feature, suggest that a repair or modification to these areas was made ca. 1880.

On the interior, two parlors open off a center hall on the first floor. Of these, the east is more formal; it features plastered walls now covered with wallpaper, original heart pine floors, four-panel doors, molded baseboards, and a mantel with an unusual double-arched frieze. The west parlor, once the main room of the log structure, is less elaborate; it has hand-planed wide-board sheathing, exposed hewn rafters, and replacement flooring made from trees on the property.

A central staircase, with chamfered newel posts, simple stick balusters and an applied scalloped face string, accesses a spacious, bright hallway and an east bedroom on the second floor. A plank door leading from the hall to the east bedroom is decorated with nail heads that form Umstead's initials, A. W. U., and the autograph of Zula, his daughter, is penciled on the other side. The bedroom retains original wide, hand-planed board floors, walls, and ceiling, and a mantel with double heart-shaped arches that is similar to the one in the parlor below. The west bedroom does not open into the upstairs hall; it was once the sleeping loft of the log house and is accessed separately from an enclosed corner stair in the west parlor.

A passageway enclosed during the Bittikofers' renovation joins the main block and a one-story wing that appears to be contemporary with the house. A long one-story rear ell, thought to have been added during the late 19th century, now serves as a large modern kitchen and a utility/laundry. A fireplace with a massive stone lintel has openings in both rooms.

Adolphus Umstead is listed in the Orange County Census of 1870 as a 23-year-old farmer, newly married to Nancy (or Nannie) Bowling, age 20, and living with his mother, Martha, then a widow. In February 1871, Nancy received a gift of 100 acres from her parents, William and Betty Bowling. William, a miller and a descendant of the founder of the 18th century Bowling mill, may have deeded the old mill tract to his daughter for the land was bounded on the east by Dial Creek, "along the meanders of the branch which lies at the southern end of the property" and included "all the woods, ways, water and water courses and all of the appurtenances thereto belonging...." In 1873 Adolphus bought an additional, probably adjoining, 82 acres of land on Dial Creek from Green Bobbitt.

The 1880 population census found Adolphus and Nancy in their own household with a daughter, Zula, age 8, and a son, Willie L., age 7, and assisted by one farm laborer who also lived on the property. The agricultural census of that year profiled the family's substantial farm; Adolphus owned 150 acres, 75 tilled and 75 in woodland, valued at \$1,000; farm machinery valued at \$75; and livestock that included one horse, two mules, four cows, fifteen swine, and ten chickens, valued at \$30. During that year, dogs killed ten sheep and one cow was slaughtered, presumably for household consumption. Fifty-five laborers were employed at a cost of \$100. They sawed 100 cords of wood, raised 575 bushels of corn, 575 bushels of wheat, and 8,000 pounds of tobacco. The census also notes that Adolphus operated a grist mill (now destroyed) with one brother, and perhaps other relatives. The 1887 Johnson map of Durham County identifies "Umpstead's (sic) Mill" and the 1910 Miller Map, "Umstead Bros.", on Dial Creek.

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

Adolphus Umstead died in April 1909 leaving no will. Nannie and Willie, and finally Zula inherited the farm. It was surveyed in 1928 for division among Zula's children, and a plat was prepared that delineated six new tracts and showed approximate locations of the buildings. A tract of 92.5 acres included the house, and behind it, a barn, a corncrib, a stable, five unidentified outbuildings, and four tobacco barns. Two tenant houses, one with a nearby barn and corncrib were elsewhere on the property. Of these, only the stable near the house survives; it has been restored by the Bittikofers for automobile and equipment storage. (Adapted from the National Register Nomination for the Adolphus Umstead House prepared by Pat Dickinson in 1989 and information provided by Martha Umstead, granddaughter of Alvis K. Umstead)

# A. K. UMSTEAD HOUSE 1866 LOG DOGTROT HOUSE (SL)

Junction SR 1626 and SR 1625, Bahama vicinity

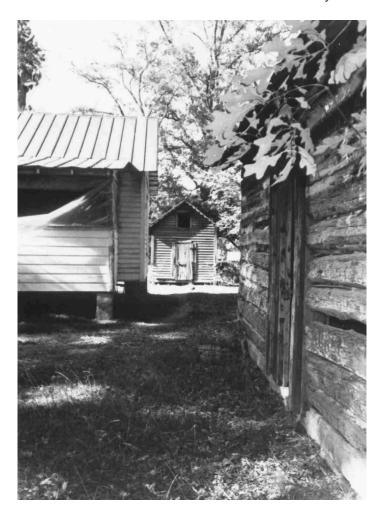


Returning from service in the Confederate Army, Alvis Kinchen Umstead, the third child and second son of Squire D. and Martha Umstead, constructed a one-story, gable-roofed, dogtrot log house ca. 1866 for his bride, Emeline Harris. The structure is built over a fieldstone foundation and bracketed by fieldstone and brick end chimneys. The juxtaposition of weatherboard siding on the front facade reveals the dogtrot, enclosed in the late 19th century to make a wide center hall. A four-panel entrance door and narrow sidelights were installed at that time, and a shedroofed front porch supported by brick piers added afterward. The house reportedly functioned as sleeping quarters, and other daily activities took place in two small log structures behind it. One of these remains; it is a one-room log building joined with square notches that served as a living-dining room. A kitchen house, also said to have been log, has been destroyed.¹ Bahama historian Mildred Harris, who lived in the house from 1916 until 1920, reported that the one-story, frame, rear ell was constructed in 1917, and that the log house was covered with weatherboards in the 1940's. On the interior there are exposed logs in the stairwell and weatherboard siding in the hall but modern composition wall covering is found in other rooms.

In addition to the log living-dining room, outbuildings associated with the house include an early 20<sup>th</sup> century smokehouse and a contemporary storage shed. A 19<sup>th</sup> century log pack house, a stock pen, a mid-20<sup>th</sup> century pack house, and several tobacco barns on an adjoining parcel were once also part of the farm.

<sup>1</sup> Interview with Rose Ellis, owner of the Alvis Kinchen Umstead House, 12 October 1996.

Alvis Umstead saw action in major Civil War battles; he reportedly fought in the Shenandoah Valley Campaign, and at Manassas, Chancellorsville, Yorktown, and Gettysburg. Later, with the advent of tobacco manufacturing in Durham, he became a successful leaf dealer. He married twice; after Emeline died, her sister, Edna, became his wife in 1873. Warehouse operations drew the Umsteads away from Bahama in 1878, and they resided afterward at 504 Holloway Street, among the social and commercial leaders of Durham. When Durham County was formed in 1881, Umstead was elected to the first Board of County Commissioners.



### DEE (DEWITT) UMSTEAD HOUSE CA. 1877

Junction SR 1607 and SR 1611, Bahama vicinity



One of a small group of Durham County dwellings with Greek Revival and Italianate ornamentation, the 1877 tri-gable frame I-house built for DeWitt Clinton Umstead, the second child and first son born to Squire D. and Martha Umstead, is among Durham County's stylish postbellum residences. The exterior of the dwelling has prominent cornice returns and pedimented lintels of the Greek Revival style that are combined with round-headed four-over-four windows and a handsome double-leaf entry door with rounded glazed panels and decorative etching of the Italianate style. There was likely additional ornamentation, but early-and mid-20th century alterations have been extensive: the foundation was reinforced by concrete block; the walls were covered by asbestos shingles and the roof by asphalt shingles; one end chimney was rebuilt; a one-room kitchen ell with a shed porch (later enclosed) was attached; and a round-arched Colonial Revival-style portico was constructed over the entry to replace a larger porch.

The interior has a center-hall plan, and like the exterior, a combination of stylistic features. Fine Greek Revival mantels with simple pilasters and plain frieze boards and Victorian mantels with a variety of applied moldings and medallions that appear to be unique in Durham County have survived alterations as has a large octagonal newel and turned balusters along the stairs.

A complex of dependencies associated with the house illustrates the variety of buildings necessary for the operation of a Piedmont North Carolina livestock and tobacco farm during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Two barns, several equipment sheds, a corncrib, a

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

smokehouse, a kitchen house, and several chicken houses surround the house, and a cluster of log and frame tobacco barns and a frame pack house are found at the edge of a large field to the northeast.



# HAMPTON UMSTEAD FARMHOUSE ca. 1890 (SL)

SR 1607, Bahama vicinity



A wooded knoll is an attractive setting for the unusually fine tri-gable I-house built ca. 1890 for Florida Hampton Umstead, the thirteenth child and tenth son of Squire D. and Martha Umstead. Umstead, reported to have been a gentleman farmer, occupied the house as his business interests elsewhere permitted. He eventually moved into Bahama and the property was divided and sold in 1917. Christopher Columbus Oakley purchased the farmhouse, and Onice Parrish, Sr., purchased the farm manager's house on the other side of the road. When Parrish's daughter, Sally, and Oakley's son, Travis, were married, she moved across the road and the couple operated a large tobacco farm.

The farmhouse stands over a brick foundation, has weatherboard siding, and is bracketed by single-shouldered end chimneys with stone bases that have been stuccoed and scored to resemble ashlar (squared) stone. Fenestration is regular on the front facade and two-over-two windows with pedimented surrounds are larger on the first floor than on the second. In end bays, first floor windows reach the floor of a Craftsman-style front porch that was added in the early 20th century, and flank a notable double-leaf entrance door decorated with fluted molding and corner blocks on the inside and stylized Eastlake molding on the outside. An etched glass transom surmounts the entry, and molded rake boards and partial eave returns decorate gables around the house.

The interior has been remodeled; ceilings have been lowered and modern paneling and carpeting installed, but wide baseboards, post and lintel mantels, and four-panel doors in

#### LAKE MICHIE QUADRANT

molded surrounds survive in each room. A generous center hall has early wallpaper and a U-shaped stair with turned spindles and decorative newels that rises to the second floor through a landing.

At the rear of the house, a one-story frame ell joins a kitchen to the main block. A large group of outbuildings near the house includes a log curing barn, a frame corncrib and a mule barn, an ordering pit, and numerous tobacco barns.